

(B) IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the following indicated paragraphs as shown.

[0006] Internal combustion engines operate as relatively low compression pumps. A diesel may generate approximately a 25 to 1 compression ratio ~~ratio~~, meaning that air drawn into the cylinder at close to ambient pressure is compressed to no greater than about 375 psi. In practice only about 300 psi is achieved due to a partial vacuum in the intake manifold and frictional losses. Absent some modification of a cylinder to operate as a higher compression pump, which complicates the engine and may compromise its performance, the compressed air must be recovered from the exhaust manifold, which entails storage at a still lower pressure.

[0024] Contemporary practice provides for computer based control of many vehicle and engine functions, usually organized by systems. An engine controller **20** is representative of such a computer used to monitor and control the operation of diesel engine **16**. Engine controller **20** times fuel injection to each cylinder **32** by control of a fuel injection controller **48**. A camshaft rotates in synchronous with a crank shaft, which in turn is coupled to the pistons in cylinders **32**. Thus camshaft position is related to the phase of each piston relative to TDC. Fuel injection is timed in relation to the cam phase position, provided by a cam phase (engine position) sensor **42**. Fuel injection is handled by an injector controller **48**. The timing of closing and opening of the intake valve **106** and an exhaust valve **110** are effected by engine controller **20** through valve actuators **124** and **126**, respectively. Engine controller **20** is also used to operate a starter **50**, which may be an air starter using compressed air from a compressed air tank **70**. Where an air starter, or some other device using compressed air at the request of engine control module **20** is used, the engine control module is connected to control a solenoid **87** for positioning a valve **85**. Air valve

85 connects compressed air tank 70 to the device, here an air starter 50, or as described hereinafter, a drive train torque output booster. The pistons of an engine are connected to a rotatable crankshaft (not shown) which is in turn connected to an output shaft and transmission which continue to move the pistons absent fuel flow to the cylinders, as long as the vehicle retains momentum.

[0029] Retention of air pumped from cylinder 32 is controlled by opening and closing shutter valve 34. A control solenoid 40, under the control of engine controller 20, positions shutter valve 34. When shutter valve 34 is closed, and fuel cut off from cylinder 32, air is pumped from cylinder 32 during an up stroke into fluidic or pneumatic amplifier 83. Pneumatic amplifier draws air from the environment through an intake 183, compresses the air and exhausts the compressed air through a check valve 120 into a high pressure air tank 70. Fluid amplifier 83 should have a pressure gain of about 20 to 1 and thus be able to deliver air to compressed air tank at pressures in excess of 2000 psi or twenty times the expected pressure of air from cylinder 32. Shutter valve 34 also operates to release air from the input side of pneumatic amplifier 83 upon opening, which can occur after a brief delay or during engine compression braking or only after pumping is discontinued, as may be preferred for split mode operation. Fluid amplifier 83 could in theory be run from combustion byproduct by-product exhaust gas from cylinder 32 at substantially higher pressures, however, such an arrangement would substantially increase back pressure from the exhaust system and thereby reduce the efficiency of the engine. The 2000 psi pressure level is chosen as the contemporary practical economic limit for a motor vehicle compressed air storage system. A higher pressure could be used given progress in seals and tank strength at affordable prices for a mass produced vehicle.

[0031] Finding the preferred periods for operation of the air compression system 18 also requires determining engine load or some other related factor indicative of spare engine capacity. If engine load is low, or better still negative, air compression system 18 can be run at little penalty, and more usually allows energy to be recaptured. Periods of engine compression braking are an ideal opportunity for air compression system 18 operation. Body controller 30 estimates engine load from engine speed, derived from the output of the engine (or cam phase) position sensor 42 and the fuel flow output which are passed to it from engine control module 20. Body controller 30 also receives inputs, either directly or from other system controllers, which indicate the status or condition of an accelerator pedal/torque request input 54, a starter button 56, an ignition switch 58, a brake pedal position switch 52 58 and a vehicle speed indication source 59, all of which may be used to determine other opportunities to initiate air pumping or the need to use air. Under cruising conditions where air tank 70 is fully pressurized, and no demands for air power occur, body controller 30 may determine leakage rates for air tank 70 from periodic sampling of readings from pressure sensor 91.

[0032] A preferred embodiment of the invention will now be described with reference particularly to **Figs. 3A-D** where a schematic of the pneumatic amplifier 83 and shutter valve 34 are illustrated. Pneumatic amplifier 83 comprises an exhaust chamber 112 which functions as a pneumatic amplifier input chamber. Exhaust chamber 112 is exposed to a working surface 308 of a shuttle piston 304. Shuttle piston 304 is positioned between chamber 112 and pumping chamber 320. Shuttle piston 304 is mounted to reciprocate in the directions indicated by the double headed arrow "C" allowing air in a pumping chamber 320 to be compressed. A working surface 310 of piston 304 312 is exposed to pumping chamber 320. Working surface 308 has approximately 20 times the exposed surface area of working surface 310 meaning that the pressure in pumping chamber 320 balances the pressure in chamber 302 when it is about 20 times as great, less the rebound force

generated by a compression spring 312. Spring 312 is disposed to urge shuttle piston 304 in the direction "D" up to a limit of the shuttle piston's travel. An intake 183 is provided to the pumping chamber 320, which admits air to the chamber through a one way check valve 314. The air drawn into the chamber is preferably dried ambient air. The spring constant of compression spring 312 is selected to substantially prevent movement of shuttle piston 304 during the relatively low transient pressures occurring during the exhaust of combustion gases.

[0033] Shutter valve 34 is located in the wall of exhaust chamber 112 and is positioned to control pressurization of the chamber and operation of fluidic amplifier 83. Exhaust chamber 112 should be made as small as practical to minimize the pressure drop occurring in gas exhausted from cylinder 32 when shutter valve 34 is closed. As illustrated in Fig. 3A, exhaust valve 110 34 is in its opened position, allowing combustion byproducts by-products to escape from cylinder 32. With exhaust valve 110 valves 32 and shutter valve 34 open, reciprocating piston 102 can force exhaust gas from cylinder 32 through the opened exhaust valve 110 as indicated by arrow "A" into cylinder exhaust chamber 112 and out of exhaust chamber 112 through shutter valve 34 as indicated by the arrow "B" to an exhaust manifold 17.

[0035] In Fig. 3C a pumping stroke of shuttle piston 304 has completed. Fluid amplifier 83 may be operated without drawing fresh air with each cycle into cylinder 32. Once a charge of air is drawn into cylinder 32, valves 106 and 34 are kept closed, and valve 110 left open. For subsequent pumping steps, as piston 104 moves downwardly, air is drawn from chamber 112 through exhaust valve 110 back into cylinder 32, pulling shuttle piston 304 back into chamber 320, and thereby drawing air in pumping chamber 320 by a now open check valve 314 as indicated by the arrow "I". Piston 102 reciprocates in cylinder 32 resulting in the same charge of air being forced in and out of exhaust chamber 112. Using

this operational sequence it may be possible to eliminate compression spring 312, simplifying pneumatic amplifier 83. The effectiveness of such an arrangement will depend upon the quality of the seal formed by shutter valve 34 and some leakage from exhaust chamber 112 is to be expected. Pumping in this manner may require pressure monitoring in chamber 112 and occasionally opening intake valve 106 may be done to replenish the charge. A pressurized first stage system might be employed where, rather than drawing a fresh air charge, pumping begins with a charge of combustion by product from cylinder 32. Again the intake valve 106 and shutter valve 34 remain closed and valve 110 would remain open while piston 102 reciprocates. Pumping with valve 106 held closed and valve 110 held open is preferably employed when the engine is under a positive load and it is undesirable that pumping mimic a compression brake or draw air from the intake manifold and thus divert it from the firing cylinders.

[0037] Referring now to **Figs. 4, 5 and 6**, the preferred embodiments of the invention are illustrated. Diesel engine 16 is a simplified representation of the engine described above in connection with **Fig. 2**. The invention is employed to best effect when the various vehicle systems are monitored and data related to operating variables are exchanged between system control processes. This arrangement allows determination of advantageous times to compress air and further determines when there is a demand for air and the capacity to provide it. Compressed air may be applied to vehicle systems such as an air brake system 95 used by a trailer or by an air starter 50 used for starting a diesel engine. Compressed air at the high pressures efficiently recovered by the two stage air compression system described here can also be employed to provide supplemental torque on demand. Utilization of the air also depends upon vehicle operating conditions. In contemporary vehicles major vehicle systems, e.g. the drive train, the engine, the brake system, and so on, are increasingly under the control of system controllers. The system controllers, including an engine controller 20, a transmission controller 400 430, an anti-lock brake

system (ABS) controller **99**, a gauge controller **14**, and body controller **30**, communicate with one another over a controller area bus (CAN) **19**, which in the preferred embodiment conforms to the SAE J1939 protocol. CAN bus **19** provides the necessary means to distribute data on vehicle operating conditions and control vehicle operation to support implementation of the invention. CAN networks allow controllers to place non-addressed data on a bus, in standard formats which identify the character and priority of the data and which still other controllers coupled to the bus can be programmed to recognize and operate on.

[0039] In the embodiment of **Fig. 4** a hydrostatic motor **160** provides drive train boost on demand. Hydrostatic motor **160** is used to boost a transmission **150** normally driven by the output shaft **152** from engine **16**. Operation of hydrostatic motor **160** is supported by compressed air from a high pressure air tank **70** **77**. Air passes from air tank **70** through a check valve **130** and a valve **85** to hydrostatic motor **170**. Valve **85** is positioned by a solenoid controller in response to a control signal from engine control module **20**. Hydrostatic motor **160** directly boosts transmission **150** to meet part of the torque demand received by the engine controller **20** from body controller **30**, which in turn determines torque demand from the position of an accelerator pedal **54** and torque availability for the engine by subtracting a load estimate from engine capacity (stored in look up tables). Engine controller **20** allocates the response between the hydrostatic motor **160** and engine **16** as a function of engine rpms (determined from cam phase sensor **42**), the availability of compressed air in air tank **70**, provided by a pressure sensor **91** through body controller **30**, and vehicle speed. Engine **16** has a torque output curve as a function in engine rpm's and load which is low at low rpm's and climbs to a peak as rpm's increase. Supplemental torque is of greatest value for taking off from a standing start where no gear choice is available allowing for operation of the engine in an advantageous portion of the engine torque curve. Boost from hydrostatic motor **160** may also be used to limit loading on output

shaft 152 from engine 16 to transmission 150, allowing the use of a lower weight crankshaft. Vehicles equipped with on board estimation of vehicle load can advantageously adjust the amount of boost to provide the desired acceleration while limiting the load on output shaft 52. Reducing torque loads on diesel engines also reduces piston blow-by, extending engine oil life and reducing particulate emissions. Exhaust from exhaust manifold 17 is handled conventionally being routed through an exhaust turbine 300 for a turbo-supercharger. Boost is tapered off as engine speed increases and more engine torque becomes available by progressively restricting flow through valve 85.